

53 GEO. III., CAP. 107; 3 GEO. IV., CAP. 79;
48 & 49 VIC., CAP. 78, SCHEME No. 34.

EDUCATION (IRELAND),
1918.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
COMMISSIONERS OF EDUCATION
IN
IRELAND.
FOR THE YEAR 1918.

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.



DUBLIN:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

To be purchased through any Bookseller or directly from
E. PONSONBY, LTD., 116, GRAYTON STREET, DUBLIN;
Or from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
IMPERIAL HOUSE, KINGSWAY, LONDON, W.C.2., and 28, ADELPHI STREET, LONDON, S.W.1.;
37, PETER STREET, MANCHESTER; 1, ST. ANDREW'S CRESCENT, CARDIFF;
23, FORTH STREET, EDINBURGH.

1919.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	PAGE 3-7
Ulster Royal School Endowments	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4-5
Schools, Numbers, Efficiency, Premises, "Qualified Schools,"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4-5
The Local Boards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Other Endowments—								
Preston	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Caryfort	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5-6
Leamy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Viscount Limerick's Endowment, Dundalk	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Banks Endowment, Eyrecourt	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Diocesan School Funds and Banagher Endowment	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Anne Hall Endowment	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Limerick Diocesan School	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Estate Management, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Rentals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Arrears	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6-7
Mining Operations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
APPENDICES—								
Appendix A.—Accounts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8-11
Appendix B.—Report of Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12-14
Appendix C.—Names and Attendance Rolls of Commissioners and Standing Committee	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONERS OF EDUCATION IN IRELAND

FOR THE YEAR

1918.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY JOHN DENTON PINKSTONE, VISCOUNT FRENCH,
G.C.B. O.M., G.C.V.O., K.C.M.G.

LORD LIEUTENANT-GENERAL AND GENERAL GOVERNOR OF IRELAND.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

We, the Commissioners of Education in Ireland, beg to submit the following General Report of our proceedings during the year 1918.

No change has taken place in the constitution of the Commission during the year. The names of the Commissioners and of the members of the Standing Committee are given on page 15. Five Board Meetings and fifteen Standing Committee Meetings were held, the attendances at which are also given on page 15. At the Board Meeting of January 17, 1918, we elected Rev. J. Denham Osborne, D.D., M.A., to be our Chairman, and Right Reverend P. J. Byrne, P.P., V.G., to be our Vice-Chairman for the year.

We deeply regret to report the death of our late Clerk, Lieutenant T. P. Craig, Office Staff, who having joined the Army in October, 1914, was killed in action in March, 1918. Lieutenant Craig's services, both in his civil and military capacity, won the high approval of his superiors, and his early demise is much to be deplored. In deference to Treasury representations we are not at present taking any steps to fill the vacancy thus caused, our Secretary receiving a grant for clerical assistance, in lieu of a clerk, and a saving of £87 on the vote being thus effected.

On pp. 8-11 we give Summaries of our Accounts which have been certified as correct by the Auditor of the Local Government Board.

Our total income, including the balance brought forward from the previous year, was £8,534 0s. 3d., and our expenditure £6,304 18s. 0d., leaving a balance of £2,229 2s. 3d. available for the current year. As compared with the previous year, income proper shows an increase of £383 9s. 11d., and expenditure an increase of £515 14s. 3d. The increase in the first instance is the result of a larger refund in respect of Income Tax, and a more exhaustive collection of rent on the County Tyrone estate, and in the second it is due to larger grants having been made for educational purposes.

The following Tables give a summary of income and expenditure:—

Income.

Accounts.	Income—1918.			Net Credit Balance, January 1, 1918.	Total.
	Rents.	Dividends.	Miscellaneous.		
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Ulster Royal School Endowment.	2,309 15 3	2,290 15 5	182 16 10	1,367 2 4	6,101 9 10
Ulster Royal School "Building Funds," etc.	—	137 6 3	28 13 7	79 18 10	245 18 8
Other Endowments ...	187 0 1	1,342 8 0	175 14 11	481 8 9	2,186 11 9
Total ...	2,537 15 4	3,680 9 8	387 5 4	1,928 9 11	8,534 0 3

Expenditure.

Accounts.	Expenditure—1918.			Net Credit Balance, December 31, 1918.	Total.
	Rents, Rates, and other outgoings.	Payment of Interest, Dividends, and other outgoings.	Expenditure for Educational Purposes.		
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Ulster Royal School Endowments.	603 6 4	205 13 4	3,769 0 0	1,523 10 2	6,101 9 10
Ulster Royal School "Building Funds," etc.	—	—	148 18 5	97 0 3	245 18 8
Other Endowments	142 6 1	—	1,435 13 10	606 11 10	2,186 11 9
Total ...	745 12 5	205 13 4	5,353 13 3	2,226 2 3	8,534 0 3

Capital.—No change has taken place during the year in the nature of the Securities held by the Board.

ULSTER ROYAL SCHOOL ENDOWMENTS.

General.—We believe that, on the whole, the schools sharing in these endowments continue to be efficiently conducted. The number of "selected" schools is still eleven. The returns dealing with these schools, their rolls, educational results, and the condition of the premises are, speaking generally, of a satisfactory character, although we note with regret what the Inspector says as to (a) the partial neglect of French in some of the schools, and (b) the ignorance in many instances betrayed in the important subject of Parsing. For particulars on these points we would refer to the report (pages 12-14) of our Secretary, who as Lord Lieutenant's Inspector, visited the various schools in September, 1918.

Numbers.—The total number of pupils on the rolls for the year 1917-18 was 870, as compared with 759 in the previous year. These figures represent a gain of 14.6 per cent. and constitute a record, the nearest approach to which is the roll of 1909-10, when the pupils numbered 820. Girls still continue to participate more widely in the benefits of the endowments, their numbers having increased from 148 in 1916-17 to 167 in 1917-18.

The number of pupils presented for the Intermediate Examination in 1918 was 439 out of a possible 500, or 87.8 per cent. of the Intermediate Roll. This is

slightly lower than the 90·3 per cent. of 1917, which formed a record in the history of the selected schools.

Efficiency.—Tested by the results of the recent Intermediate Examinations, the schools, taken as a whole, have done fairly well, but not so well—either relatively or absolutely—as in the previous year. Out of 439 presented for examination, 275 were successful, that is the percentage of Passes is 62·6, as against a general percentage for the whole country of 55·7. In 1917 the percentages of Passes was 70·9 for our special schools and 60·1 for Irish Intermediate schools generally. The much poorer results obtained in two of the “selected” schools account for this lowered prestige, and in the case of one of the schools referred to, the lengthened and serious illness of the Headmaster furnishes an adequate explanation.

School Premises.—The condition of the school premises may be described as satisfactory—if we except the portion of Cavan Royal School now not used for school purposes. In this case the buildings are much too large for present requirements and the limited resources of the Local Board being strained to their utmost to meet the claims of the occupied portion of the premises, the unoccupied buildings do not receive the attention necessary to keep them in good repair.

Qualified Schools.—We are satisfied that the eleven schools selected by the Local Boards of Education qualified under the Scheme for the year 1917-18, and we accepted as evidence of this qualification the certificate of the Lord Lieutenant's Inspector given on page 14.

Local Boards.—In accordance with Section 48 of the Scheme we received reports from the various Local Boards of Education as to their proceedings during the school year 1917-18. These reports are generally of a satisfactory character; all the material requirements of the Scheme have been duly observed; the attendance of members at Board meetings has been more than usually regular; but in some cases we should like to see less delay in having the accounts submitted for annual audit.

OTHER ENDOWMENTS.

Preston Endowment.—The gross income of this endowment was £956 14s. 9d. as compared with £963 3s. 4d. for the previous year, the cause of the decrease being a smaller collection of interest in lieu of rent, as the result of proceedings with regard to a labourer's plot. After payment of the necessary outgoing, the following allocations were made to the Governing Bodies of the three Schools named:—King's Hospital, Oxmantown, £163 10s. 6d.; Preston School, Navan, £406 16s. 7d.; and Preston School, Abbeyleix, £280 12s. 10d.

Preston School, Navan.—This school continues to make substantial progress under the new Headmaster. The roll has increased from 32 to 39, and the average attendance from 30 to 35. Of 4 presented for the Intermediate Examination 3 passed. The Lord Lieutenant's Inspector reports:—“The Preston School, Navan, under its present Headmaster continues to do good work. The number of pupils attending the School has increased. A sound course of instruction is carried out.”

Preston School, Abbeyleix.—The roll has increased from 15 to 20, of whom 4 are boarders, and of 7 presented for the Intermediate Examinations 6 passed. The Lord Lieutenant's Inspector refers to the very favourable impression made by the Junior Grade class, to the good tone of the School, and to the satisfactory condition of the premises. For the want of candidates this is the fourth successive year in which the Scholarship attached to the School has not been awarded. The accumulations of income, thus caused are invested periodically.

Carysfort Endowment.—The Schools sharing in this endowment are Sheeana, Ballintona, Aughrim, Ballycreen, and Mucklagh National Schools, the two first named being under Protestant, and the remaining three under Roman Catholic management. A sum of £133 was divided equally between the two denominations. The reports of the National Board Inspectors may be described as very good with

regard to one of the schools, as good with regard to three, and as very fair with regard to the fifth. No change has taken place in the unsuitable condition of the Mucklagh premises.

The Leamy Endowment, Limerick.—During the year we distributed between the Leamy Local Boards of Education a sum of £188 15s. 11d. On the day of inspection the roll of the High School, under Protestant management, was 14, and that of the National School, under Roman Catholic management, was 496. The Inspector refers to the latter School in terms of praise, but with regard to the High School, although the teaching is satisfactory, he is doubtful as to its prospects, in view of the small number of pupils in attendance and the limited endowment at the disposal of the Local Board.

The Viscount Limerick Endowment, Dundalk.—Two Schools established their claim to share in this Endowment, namely:—St. Mary's College, Dundalk, for 39 pupils, and the Educational Institution, Dundalk, for 1 pupil. We divided the sum of £32 0s. 0d. between them in proportion to these numbers.

Banks Endowment, Eyrecourt.—The Trustees mentioned in the Scheme again submitted a plan for the application of the endowment during the year 1918, and in accordance therewith a sum of £20 15s. 5d. was devoted to the teaching of Shirt-making, Knitting, &c., and to providing prizes for attendance, diligence, and improvement in the several standards, in a School at Eyrecourt under the management of Very Rev. Dean Aldridge. The report on the work done is satisfactory.

The Diocesan Schools and Banagher Royal School Endowments.—In accordance with the plan adopted some years ago we paid the following sums for the benefit of pupils attending Intermediate Schools in the districts named:—£12, Dioceses of Leighlin and Ossory; £26, Dioceses of Meath and Ardagh; £28, Dioceses of Tuam, Killala and Achonry; and £30, King's County. In the last-named district a sum of £40 was offered for competition, but two prizes (£10) were not awarded owing to the lack of female candidates. We also distributed a sum of £88 as grants towards the better equipment of eight Secondary Schools in the King's County.

Anne Hall Endowment, Lattone School.—The Lattone portion of the endowment still continues to be devoted to the reduction of the debt incurred in enlarging and repairing the School premises. The Inspector's last report pronounces the educational results as barely fair, but we understand that there is reason to hope for improvement.

Limerick Diocesan School Endowment.—No expenditure was incurred during the year, and on December 31, 1918, the property in our possession in addition to the School buildings, consisted of £138 5s. 2d. War Loan 5 per cent. Stock, £84 12s. 6d. War Loan 3½ per cent. Stock, £310 12s. 6d. Railway Stock, and £57 14s. 11d. cash, the income for the year being £44 12s. 9d.

ESTATE MANAGEMENT.

On pp. 10-11 we give Summaries of our Rentals for the year 1916-17, together with our Agents' Accounts for the corresponding period.

Rentals.—As compared with the previous year, the gross rental on the present occasion shows an increase of £5 16s. 3d., the figures being £1,855 13s. 2d. now, as against £1,840 16s. 11d. in 1917. Carysfort remains unchanged. Tyrone Rental Proper is increased by £3 3s. 3d. owing to new Spent Bog lettings, and the Tyrone Bog Rental is increased by £2 13s. 0d.

Arrears.—The general condition of the arrears compares very favourably with that of the previous year, the total outstanding having decreased from £1,435 7s. 4d. to £1,300 11s. 2d. Taking the estates separately, Carysfort, at the date the account was rendered (May 1, 1918), showed that less than a year's rent had been collected, and that the arrears, which were nil in the preceding year, amounted to £14 9s. 6d.

It is but fair to add, however, that by the end of May the whole of this sum had been collected. On the Tyrone estate the arrears have been substantially reduced, £1,296 1s. 8d. taking the place of £1,435 7s. 4d. That is, an improvement of £149 5s. 8d. has been effected—viz., £123 4s. 5d. on the Rental Proper and £26 1s. 3d. on the Bog Rental. This is creditable to the new Agent who was appointed in November, 1917. New arrears, however, have been allowed to accrue on 6 agricultural holdings and 16 bog lettings, and the Agent having been asked for an explanation replied to the following effect:—(a) With regard to the 6 cases on the Rental Proper, 1 tenant had since paid, 1 who is in Scotland had met with an accident, 1 had suffered loss through death of cattle, and 3 had asked for time, against whom, if there was any undue delay, he would take legal proceedings; (b) as to the bog lettings, that these lettings are not being cut this year by the parties owing the arrears and that efforts would be made to get the rent now for any that is being let for the season.

We entertain the hope that, as the result of the activities of the new Agent, the arrears on the Tyrone estate, more especially with regard to the Bog Rental, will show still further improvement for the year 1917-18.

MINING OPERATIONS.

In July last the Government asked for permission to conduct boring operations on our County Tyrone estate, and we being sensible of the benefits which would accrue to the community in general and to our property in particular, in the event of the boring proving successful, readily granted the required consent. We further agreed that if workable coal were found, as the result of the boring, the Government should be recouped the cost of these operations out of the profits. Towards the close of the year the work of boring was commenced by the Department of Reconstruction—a branch of the Ministry of Munitions—but as yet we have not been informed of the result.

All which we have the honour to submit to Your Excellency as our Report in the premises.

Sealed with our Common Seal at a Meeting held this 30th day of April, 1919, and forwarded for submission to Your Excellency on the same date.

Present when the Seal was affixed:—

J. DENHAM OSBORNE, *Chairman.*

J. L. MORROW,

J. C. MACGINLEY,

W. KENNEDY,

E. D. CROWE, *Clk.,*

} *Commissioners.*



STANISLAUS MURPHY.

Secretary.

THE COMMISSIONERS OF EDUCATION IN IRELAND.

APPENDIX A.—

RECEIPTS AND

1 (a).—THE ULSTER ROYAL

DE.

CHARGE.

Name of Endowment.	Credit Balance, Dec. 31, 1917.	RECEIPTS.				Debit Balance, Dec. 31, 1918.	Total.
		Rents.	Dividends.	Miscellaneous.	Total Receipts.		
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Armagh Royal School ...	487 6 34	251 0 0	802 7 8	11 15 11	1,065 3 2	—	1,532 9 54
Cavan Royal School ...	126 12 54	—	381 5 8	42 15 3	324 0 6	—	450 12 114
Haphos Royal School ...	115 6 7	69 0 0	182 9 3	22 8 10	269 9 1	—	364 14 8
Enniskillen Royal School ...	634 11 104	79 0 0	661 10 2	78 16 1	1,113 8 3	—	1,647 18 14
Dungannon Royal School ...	123 6 14	1,972 15 3	5 12 6	26 0 9	2,002 8 6	—	2,325 12 74
TOTAL ...	1,367 2 4	2,299 15 3	2,500 15 3	182 16 10	4,734 7 6	—	4,301 9 16

1 (b).—THE ULSTER LOCAL

DE.

CHARGE.

Name of Local Board.	Credit Balance, Dec. 31, 1917.	RECEIPTS.				Debit Balance, Dec. 31, 1918.	Total.
		Distributive Share of Endowment.	Dividends on Building Funds, &c.	Other Receipts.	Total Receipts.		
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Armagh Protestant ...	—	410 0 0	—	—	410 0 0	115 10 0	295 10 0
Armagh Roman Catholic ...	—	410 0 0	—	—	410 0 0	—	410 0 0
Cavan Protestant ...	—	122 0 0	—	—	122 0 0	—	122 0 0
Cavan Roman Catholic ...	51 18 0	122 0 0	91 9 10	20 8 3	233 18 1	—	283 18 1
Donagall Protestant ...	—	102 10 0	—	11 8 10	113 18 10	25 1 2	139 0 0
Donagall Roman Catholic ...	—	102 10 0	—	—	102 10 0	—	102 10 0
Fermanagh Protestant ...	—	513 10 0	—	0 1 0	513 11 0	18 5 0	531 15 0
Fermanagh Roman Catholic ...	28 0 10	513 10 0	45 16 8	8 4 4	687 10 8	—	695 11 5
Tyrone Protestant ...	—	736 10 0	—	—	736 10 0	—	736 10 0
Tyrone Roman Catholic ...	—	736 10 0	—	—	736 10 0	—	736 10 0
TOTAL ...	79 18 10	3,709 0 0	137 6 8	40 2 8	3,946 6 8	158 16 2	4,165 2 8

APPENDIX A.—ACCOUNTS FOR 1918.—continued.

ACCOUNTS.

EXPENDITURE, 1918.

SCHOOL ENDOWMENTS.

DISCHARGE.						CR.		
Debit Balances, Dec. 31, 1917.	EXPENDITURE.					Credit Balances, Dec. 31, 1918.	TOTAL.	Name of Endowment.
	On Estate Management, &c.			Amount Distributed between Local Boards.	Total EXPENDI- TURE.			
	Rents, Taxes, &c.	Agency Charges, and other Payments.	Retired Masters' Annuities.					
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
—	40 1 1	41 19 9	93 0 0	320 0 0	1,029 0 10	486 3 7½	1,512 9 5½	Armagh Royal School.
—	—	5 3 2	66 13 4	294 0 0	315 15 6	134 17 5½	450 13 11½	Cavan Royal School.
—	20 16 5	13 3 0	—	295 0 0	239 19 5	125 15 3	364 14 8	Raphoe Royal School.
—	20 14 7	24 17 11	22 0 0	1,627 0 0	1,694 12 6	553 5 7½	1,547 18 1½	Enniskillen Royal School.
—	116 12 7	290 17 10	22 0 0	1,673 0 0	1,908 10 5	228 3 2½	2,125 13 7½	Dungannon Royal School.
—	227 4 3	235 1 6	208 13 4	3,769 0 0	4,877 19 3	1,323 10 2	6,101 9 10	Total.

BOARDS OF EDUCATION.

DISCHARGE.					CR.		
Debit Balances, Dec. 31, 1917.	CREDITS.				Credit Balances, December 31, 1918.	Total.	Name of Local Board.
	Rents, &c., due by Local Boards.	Income of Building Funds, &c., paid.	Net Amount of Share of Endowment.	Total Credits.			
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
185 10 0	221 0 0	—	179 0 0	410 0 0	—	525 10 0	Armagh Protestant.
—	—	—	410 0 0	410 0 0	—	410 0 0	Armagh Roman Catholic.
—	—	—	122 0 0	122 0 0	—	122 0 0	Cavan Protestant.
—	—	97 12 11	122 0 0	319 12 11	66 3 3	385 15 1	Cavan Roman Catholic.
25 1 3	63 0 0	—	50 15 10	113 15 10	—	139 0 0	Donagall Protestant.
—	—	—	102 10 0	102 10 0	—	102 10 0	Donagall Roman Catholic.
18 4 0	28 5 0	0 1 0	455 6 0	513 12 0	—	531 12 0	Fernanagh Protestant.
—	—	51 4 6	513 10 0	564 14 6	39 17 1	565 11 7	Fernanagh Roman Catholic.
—	—	—	736 10 0	736 10 0	—	736 10 0	Tyrone Protestant.
—	—	—	736 10 0	736 10 0	—	736 10 0	Tyrone Roman Catholic.
128 15 2	222 5 0	145 13 5	3,488 4 10	3,859 8 3	97 0 3	4,145 2 5	TOTAL.

THE COMMISSIONERS OF EDUCATION IN IRELAND.

APPENDIX A.—

RECEIPTS AND

2.—OTHER ROYAL SCHOOLS AND PRIVATE ENDOWMENTS

DR.

CHARGE.

NAME OF ENDOWMENT.	RECEIPTS.					Debit Balance, Dec 31, 1918.	Total
	Credit Balance, Dec. 31, 1917.	Rents.	Dividends.	Other Receipts.	Total Receipts.		
	£ s d	£ s d	£ s d.	£ s d.	£ s d.	£ s d.	£ s d.
Dunaghy Royal School ...	25 4 4½	—	100 19 1	0 12 4	101 2 5	—	126 6 9½
Caryfort Royal School ...	66 7 5	115 4 9	32 10 6	10 16 7	129 11 10	—	238 19 4
Athlone Private School...	3 5 0	—	5 15 2	1 4 8	6 19 10	—	39 4 38
Banks Endowment, Kylescourt ...	11 7 0	4 12 4	19 6 9	4 12 6	29 11 7	—	29 18 7
Leamy Endowment, Limerick ...	29 5 10	—	170 5 0	54 9 3	224 14 3	—	324 5 1
Leamy Protestant Board of Education.	15 14 4	—	10 11 11	6 5 2	25 17 1	—	39 11 5
Preston Endowment (General) ...	—	—	672 5 9	8 3 4	681 9 1	—	681 9 1
Preston School, Navan ...	78 16 0½	—	135 19 7	31 2 9	167 2 4	—	345 19 12½
Preston, Queen's County, Endowment.	16 0 1	—	82 11 4	25 12 9	106 3 4	—	124 3 5
Preston Scholarship ...	41 4 0	—	18 16 9	6 2 9	54 19 6	—	66 4 0
Vicount Limerick Endowment, Dundalk.	52 12 2	46 5 0	4 19 9	2 1 3	53 4 0	—	105 16 2
Meath and Ardfagh Diocesan School Fund.	20 14 11	—	23 5 11	7 13 4	30 19 3	—	52 14 2
Leighlin and Omeath Diocesan School Fund.	8 6 10	—	10 10 3	3 9 3	13 19 6	—	22 6 4
Limerick Diocesan School Fund ...	13 2 2	20 0 0	19 19 9	5 2 0	44 12 9	—	57 14 11
Tulla, &c., Diocesan School Fund...	24 7 3	—	25 3 6	8 7 9	52 16 3	—	58 3 1
TOTALS, ...	481 8 9	187 0 1	1,342 6 0	175 14 11	1,705 3 0	—	2,189 13 9

3.—SUMMARY RENTAL FOR YEAR TO SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER, 1917.

RENTALS, 1917.

NAME OF ESTATE.	Arrears, 1916.	Rent, 1917.	Total.	Collected, 1917.	Arrears, 1917.
	£ s d	£ s d	£ s d	£ s d	£ s d
Tyrone ...	1,220 17 8	1,500 1 5	2,926 19 1	1,719 5 10	1,197 13 3
Tyrone Bog ...	124 9 8	124 17 0	249 7 2	100 18 9	88 8 5
Caryfort ...	NIL	124 14 3	124 14 3	110 4 9	14 9 6
TOTALS, ...	1,428 7 4	1,825 13 2	3,291 0 6	1,900 9 4	1,300 11 2

APPENDIX A.—ACCOUNTS FOR 1918—continued.

ACCOUNTS.

EXPENDITURE—(continued).

AND THE DIOCESAN SCHOOL FUNDS.

DISCHARGE.

CR.

Debit Balances, Dec. 31, 1917	EXPENDITURE				Credit Balances, Dec. 31, 1918.	Total.	NAME OF ENDOWMENT.
	On Estate, &c.		Educational.	Total Ex- penditure.			
	Rents, &c.	Other Ex- penditure.					
£ s d.	£ s d.	£ s d.	£ s d.	£ s d.	£ s d.	£ s d.	
—	2 0 1	0 3 5	115 0 0	120 2 9	10 3 6	130 6 9	Banagher Royal School.
—	4 4 11	53 2 9	133 0 0	170 2 2	28 10 8	228 19 4	Cherford Royal School.
—	—	—	5 2 7	5 2 7	4 2 3	10 4 10	Athlone Private School.
—	4 18 1	0 0 10	20 15 5	25 14 4	14 4 3	39 18 7	Banks Endowment, Kyeenart
—	20 0 0	0 9 1	145 10 8	156 19 9	127 0 4	324 0 1	Leamy Endowment, Limerick.
—	—	1 10 0	23 8 5	23 10 3	15 16 3	39 11 5	Leamy Protestant Board of Education.
—	71 11 10	1 0 0	508 17 3	581 9 1	—	581 9 1	Freston Endowments (General).
—	—	—	147 0 11	147 0 11	98 13 2	245 19 14	Freston School, Navan
—	—	2 18 0	95 1 9	97 13 9	25 3 8	124 3 3	Freston, Queen's County, Endow- ment.
—	—	0 0 10	—	0 0 10	45 3 2	45 4 0	Freston Scholarship.
—	—	0 2 1	52 0 0	52 2 1	53 14 1	105 16 2	Vicars' Limerick Endowment, Dundalk.
—	—	0 1 3	28 0 0	28 1 3	25 12 11	53 14 2	Math and Ardagh Diocesan School Fund
—	—	0 0 5	12 0 0	12 0 5	10 5 11	22 6 4	Leighlin and Ossney Diocesan School Fund.
—	—	—	—	—	57 14 11	57 14 11	Limerick Diocesan School Fund
—	—	0 1 3	28 0 0	28 1 3	30 2 3	58 3 5	Tuam, &c., Diocesan School Fund
—	106 15 11	9 10 2	1,428 12 10	1,577 19 11	608 11 10	2,185 11 9	TOTAL.

4.—SUMMARY OF AGENTS' ACCOUNTS, MAY, 1917, TO MAY, 1918.

NAME OF ENTRER	Balance, 1917.	Receipts, 1917-18.	Total.	Outgoings, *1917-18.	Lodged, 1917-18.	Balance, 1918.
	£ s d.	£ s d.	£ s d.	£ s d.	£ s d.	£ s d.
Trane (Moore) ...	103 8 9	172 3 4	275 12 1	41 15 1	236 17 0	NIL
Trane (Doris) ...	NIL	1,714 1 3	1,714 1 3	225 19 8	1,389 0 0	106 1 7
Deputy ...	NIL	110 4 9	110 4 9	29 11 1	80 13 5	NIL
TOTAL ...	103 8 9	2,000 9 4	2,105 18 1	327 6 10	1,579 10 5	106 1 7

THE COMMISSIONERS OF EDUCATION IN IRELAND.

APPENDIX B.

INSPECTION, 1917-1918.

REPORT

With regard to the INSPECTION for the YEAR 1917-1918 of the SCHOOLS selected by the Local Boards of Education to share in the

ULSTER ROYAL SCHOOL ENDOWMENTS.

As Inspector appointed by His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant for the school year 1917-1918, I made my inspection of these Schools in September, 1918. The number of such schools on the present occasion is eleven—the same as last year—the various girls' Schools being regarded as branches of the corresponding boys' Schools.

The subjoined Table shows the accommodation of the eleven Schools and the numbers on their Rolls respectively:—

NAME OF SCHOOL.	* No. of Pupils which the school can accommodate.			No. of Pupils on Roll, 1917-18.				
				Boys.		Girl Pupils.		Total.
	Boys.	Girl Pupils.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	
1. Royal School, Armagh ...	100	100	200	49	—	32	—	81
2. St. Patrick's College, Armagh ...	80	20	100	36	—	10	—	46
3. Royal School, Cavan ...	40	40	80	9	—	18	23	50
4. St. Patrick's College, Cavan ...	100	50	150	102	—	32	—	134
5. Royal School, Raphoe ...	40	100	140	18	—	9	9	36
6. St. Eunan's Seminary, Letterkenny ...	30	20	100	69	—	14	—	74
7. Royal School, Enniskillen (Portora) ...	100	50	150	78	—	20	—	98
8. Royal School, Enniskillen (Girls) ...	7	48	55	—	5	—	50	55
9. St. Macarten's Seminary, Monaghan ...	100	20	120	59	—	—	—	59
10. St. Michael's College, Enniskillen ...	—	50	50	—	—	38	—	38
11. Royal School, Dungannon ...	65	140	205	44	19	45	34	142
12. St. Patrick's Academy, Dungannon ...	—	120	120	—	—	30	27	57
Totals ...	602	768	1,460	453	24	248	143	870

The success of the Schools, as measured by the results obtained in the recent Intermediate Examinations, is set forth in the following Table:—

NAME OF SCHOOL.	No. of Pupils on Intermediate School Roll.	Number presented for Intermediate Examinations.		Number who passed.		Percentage of Passes to Intermediate School Roll.	Percentage of Passes to number presented for examination.
		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.		
1. Royal School, Armagh ...	41	36	—	21	—	51.2	58.3
2. St. Patrick's College, Armagh ...	36	34	—	21	—	58.3	61.7
3. Royal School, Cavan ...	23	15	5	11	3	60.8	70
4. St. Patrick's College, Cavan ...	80	60	—	27	—	33.7	45
5. Royal School, Raphoe ...	18	11	3	7	1	44.4	57.1
6. St. Eunan's Seminary, Letterkenny ...	69	66	—	46	—	66.6	80.6
7. Royal School, Enniskillen (Portora) ...	35	30	—	26	—	74.2	86.6
8. Royal School, Enniskillen (Girls) ...	9	—	7	—	7	77.7	100
9. St. Macarten's Seminary, Monaghan ...	53	53	—	35	—	66	66
10. St. Michael's College, Enniskillen ...	30	30	—	11	—	36.6	36.6
11. Royal School, Dungannon ...	70	36	19	27	10	52.8	67.2
12. St. Patrick's Academy, Dungannon ...	36	12	22	5	17	61.1	64.7
General Result ...	509	383	56	237	38	55	62.6

* These numbers are, of course, only approximate.

School Rolls.—The total number of pupils on the rolls for the year just closed is 870 as compared with 750 for the previous year. These figures represent the substantial gain of 111, or 14·6 per cent—a pleasing proof of the growing popularity of the Schools. This is much the strongest roll in my experience—now extending over a period of fifteen years—and, similarly, the increase of 111 in one year has never before been equalled. The nearest approach to the present record is the roll of 1908-10, when the pupils numbered 820, but the annual increase on that occasion was only 51 per cent. For this pronounced change two explanations suggest themselves:—(1) the dangers which at present threaten those "who go down to the sea in ships" may have induced parents to send to Irish schools children who would otherwise have found their way across the channel, and (2) the wave of prosperity now passing over the country has probably placed the benefits of secondary education within the reach of many who previously found the school fees a bar. All classes—boys and girls, boarders and day pupils—show increased numbers, but it cannot be said that the average intelligence of the Schools has kept pace with their rolls, the majority of the pupils being in many cases distinctly below the normal standard.

The number on the Intermediate Rolls, that is those available for the Intermediate Examinations, was 500, or 57·4 per cent, as against 434, or 50·8 per cent, last year. This slight falling off is accounted for by an increase in preparatory pupils—a tendency which I should like to see encouraged. Of the 500 possible candidates, 480 were presented for examination, that is 97·8 per cent., which is somewhat below the record reached last year, viz., 90·8 per cent.

Educational Efficiency.—Tested by the results of the recent Intermediate Examinations, the schools, taken as a whole, have done fairly well, but not so well—either absolutely or relatively—as last year. The successful candidates number 275 out of 430 presented for examination, that is, the percentage of passes is 63·6. This does not compare favourably with the 70·9 per cent. of 1917, but it is to be remembered that the general results for the country as a whole are also lower this year, although in the latter case the reduction is not so pronounced as that shown in the special results with which we are dealing. The general results give a percentage of 55·7, or a reduction of 4·4 per cent., as compared with last year, whereas the reduction in the case of our Ulster Schools is 5·3 per cent. Accordingly, although the eleven schools under review continue to maintain a higher percentage of passes than the Irish schools taken as a whole, their superiority in this respect is represented by a percentage of 8·9 this year as compared with one of 10·8 last year. A rather unusual experience in the case of our Ulster Schools is that on the present occasion the girls have done much better than the boys, the percentage of passes being 67·8 and 61·8, respectively. Last year the boys scored a percentage of 74·8 and the girls 53·7.

The fine percentages scored by the following Schools is worthy of mention:—Royal School, Enniskillen (girls), 100; Royal School, Enniskillen (boys), 86·6; and Royal School, Cavan, 70; although, perhaps, one would have expected a larger number of entrants from the two former Schools. The results of St. Macarten's, Monaghan, and St. Eunan's Letterkenny, are also very favourable considering the extensive numbers presented for examination. Eight schools show reduced results, the most notable being St. Patrick's College, Cavan, and St. Michael's College, Enniskillen. In the former case I think the reduction is mainly attributable to the serious illness of the President, whose energy and enthusiasm were lost to the School from Easter to the end of the school year. As anticipated in my report of last year Royal School, Raphoe, has again qualified under the Scheme. After a test of the various classes I estimated that 7 pupils would probably pass, the number actually successful was 8.

As the individual results have not yet been published, an analysis of the marks obtained in particular subjects is not practicable. It may be observed, however, (1) that in three of the schools there is a tendency to treat French with scant courtesy; (2) that the paper set in Junior Grade Arithmetic was much criticised and is feared to have proved fatal to many candidates; and (3) that my own experience would point to English Composition as a dangerous subject. In many cases the method of oral answering was slovenly, and, with very few exceptions, knowledge of parsing was a negative quantity. "Who" was stated to be a verb; "quickly" was not recognised as an adverb; the rules regarding relative and antecedent were known to few and understood by fewer; while the attempts made to construct simple sentences in exemplification of grammatical rules were almost hopeless. In this connection I think the other Local Boards would be well advised to follow the example of the Fermanagh R.O. Board, which in its most recent Free Place Programme has assigned special bonus marks for proficiency in parsing.

Buildings, Equipment, &c.—With the exception of Cavan Royal School, the premises may be described as being in good condition; so, too, may the equipment, if we except some desks and blackboards previously referred to. As to Cavan Royal School, the buildings are much too large for present requirements, and the unused portions are not receiving the attention necessary to keep them in repair. The condition of the occupied buildings is just fair, but the following points should be seen to: (a) damp spots in dormitory and lady teachers' room, (b) falling plaster in corridor and at side entrance hall, and (c) door leading to back from Science Hall door.

Other points also noted are:—

Armagh Royal School.—Gates, doors and woodwork of windows facing public road should be painted.

St. Eunan's Seminary, Letterkenny.—Ventilation does not receive the attention it deserves.

Royal School, Dungannon.—A partition is badly required in the large class room—girls' department.

Health, etc.—Measles, Mumps, Influenza, etc., which made their appearance in four of the schools, caused the local authorities some anxiety, but there was nothing in the nature of an epidemic, and the normal scholastic course was not materially interfered with. The remaining seven schools had a clean bill of health during the year. The important subject of drill is now included in the curriculum of eight of the schools, in one it is temporarily suspended owing to the difficulty of securing a competent instructor at the present time, and in the remaining two, I regret to say, it finds no place in the Time Table. Discipline was rather lax in one of the two schools last referred to. The Headmaster's attention has been called to the matter.

Free Places.—All the Schools provided free education for at least two pupils, although in one case it does not appear that the fact was advertised as required by Section 59 of the Scheme. The competition was not very keen, there being only two candidates for each place, and on the whole the standard reached was lower than that of previous years. In one school the answering was so poor that no candidate was accepted, and in another only one candidate reached the required standard. On the other hand, there were a few brilliant candidates, one scoring 81 per cent. and four over 75 per cent.

Local Boards.—Generally the various Boards have duly observed all the material requirements of the Scheme, and the attendance of members at meetings was never better. It would be well, however, if the accounts were presented for audit at an earlier date each year. The accounts of no less than six of the Local Boards had not been audited on the occasion of my inspection.

Schedule I. Qualified Schools.—I am satisfied that the eleven schools selected by the Local Boards have fulfilled all the necessary conditions, and I beg to report the compliance of each of these schools with the requirements of the Scheme in respect of the school year ended August 1st, 1918.

The matters which call for attention and which have been briefly alluded to above, will be made the subject of fuller reference in my detailed report to His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant. *

STANISLAUS MURPHY.

Secretary.

October 4, 1918.

APPENDIX C.

COMMISSIONERS OF EDUCATION IN IRELAND.

I.

CONSTITUTION AND ATTENDANCES, 1918.

COMMISSIONER.	DAYS OF MEETING.					
	Jan. 17.	Mar. 14. Special	April 11.	July 24.	Oct. 9.	TOTAL.
Most Rev. Dr. Browne, Bishop of Cloyne ...	1	-	1	-	1	3
Rev. J. W. R. Campbell, M.A. ...	-	-	1	-	1	2
Most Rev. Dr. Donnelly, Bishop of Canea ...	1	-	-	-	-	1
W. A. Golligher, Esq., M.P., F.R.C.S., M.A. ...	-	1	-	1	-	2
James MacMahon, Esq. Under Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant.	1	1	1	-	1	4
Right Hon.-Lord Chief Justice McSwiney ...	-	-	-	-	1	1
Rev. J. L. Morrow, M.A. ...	1	-	1	-	1	3
W. J. O'Reilly, Esq., D.L., B.A. ...	-	-	-	1	1	2
Rev. J. Denham Osborne, M.A., D.D., Chairman ...	1	1	1	1	1	5
Louis Claude Purser, Esq., M.P., F.R.C.S. ...	1	1	1	1	1	5
Right Rev. Monsignor Byrne, P.P., V.G., Vice-Chairman	1	-	1	1	1	4
Very Rev. Canon Coyne, P.P. ...	-	-	1	-	1	2
His Honor Judge Walker Craig, M.A., K.C. ...	-	-	-	-	-	0
Very Rev. Canon MacGinley, D.D. ...	-	1	1	-	1	3
Most Rev. Dr. McKenna, Bishop of Clogher ...	1	-	1	-	1	3
Rev. W. R. W. Roberts, D.D., F.R.C.S. ...	-	-	1	-	-	1
Doctor Alfred Smith, F.R.C.S. ...	-	-	1	-	-	1
Sir James H. Stange, Bart., D.L. ...	1	-	-	-	1	2
His Honor Judge Andrew Todd, M.D., K.C. ...	-	-	-	-	-	0
Rev. Canon Webb, M.A. ...	-	-	1	1	1	3

II.

STANDING COMMITTEE, 1918.

Meetings summoned—17.

Meetings held—15.

	Attendances.		Attendances.
Dean Byrne ...	4	Mr. O'Reilly ...	3
Judge Craig ...	0	Dr. Osborne ...	10
Dr. Donnelly ...	0	Dr. Purser ...	13
Mr. MacMahon ...	7	Mr. Roberts ...	0
Canon MacGinley ...	6	Judge Todd ...	4

No. 11182

DUBLIN CASTLE,

9th May, 1919.

SIR,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th ult., forwarding, for submission to His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, the Annual Report of the Commissioners of Education in Ireland for the year 1918.

I am,

SIR,

Your obedient Servant,

J. J. TAYLOR.

The Secretary
to the Commissioners of Education in Ireland,
14 and 15 Castle Street,
Dublin.